

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 27, 2009

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RPU Water Division wins national gold

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies recognized Riverside Public Utilities-Water Division yesterday with a national award for “significant contribution to the drinking water industry.”

The AMWA, which represents water utilities nationwide, awarded RPU the 2009 Gold Award for Exceptional Utility Performance.

“It’s an honor to be given this award because it’s from our peers in the utilities profession,” said RPU General Manager David Wright. “The award is a tribute to our workers’ passion for finding delivering reliable and affordable sources of water to our customers.”

Categories for the award included: product quality, strategic business planning, customer satisfaction, financial viability and infrastructure stability. In all categories, RPU water excelled, said Kevin Milligan, assistant general manager of water.

“The fruits of our labors are now being recognized at a national level,” Milligan said.

With a long drought in the region, the award’s significance is profound for residents who depend on RPU for water.

“The city’s agricultural affluence in the late 19th century was based on the movement of water,” said Mayor Ron Loveridge. “That importance has not diminished in the 21st century. RPU deserves this award for continuing to bring water to our community.”

Recent RPU Water accomplishments include the opening of the John W. North Water Treatment Plant, a 10-million gallon a day membrane treatment facility that made the city virtually independent of outside water importation.

“We share this award with more than 60,000 customers,” Wright said.

The award was given at the AMWA annual meeting in Naples, Fla.

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Established in 1895, Riverside Public Utilities is a consumer-owned water and electric utility governed by a board of nine community volunteers that provides high quality, reliable services to over 107,000 metered electric customers and 63,400 metered water customers throughout the City of Riverside. The Utility is committed to increased use of renewable energy resources and sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com

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